Name: Today’s Date:

**D’var Torah Guidelines**

Date of Kab. Shab. D’var Torah: Title of Parsha:

This parsha can be found in the Book of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Perek (Chapter) Pasukim (Verses)

As part of the sixth grade curriculum, each of you this year will give a D’var Torah at a Kabbalat Shabbat. A **D’var Torah** is a talk or speech about the weekly **parsha** with a focus on the moral or ethical lesson learned from the text.

Not only will you give a D’var Torah on your Bar/Bat Mitzvah day about your Torah portion, but also preparing a D’var Torah strengthens your writing, speaking, and analytical skills.

Your D’var Torah date for this year has already been scheduled. Once you receive it, please write all of the pertinent information at the top of this page.

Here are some steps to guide you on your way.

1)Your D’var Torah should be structured similarly to a five paragraph essay. You should have a clear introduction, body, and concluding paragraph(s). You are encouraged to seek the assistance of your Jewish Studies and English teachers for assistance with this project.

2) Provide some background or summary to the part of the story you are going to discuss. It need not be a detailed retelling of the entire perek or parsha. You should try to focus on one specific part of a story.

3) Pose/Ask a thoughtful and meaningful question. This question should also flow with the D’var Torah and relate to the main idea of your speech. Your question might even relate to your quote.

4) Be sure to select and include a quote from your parsha. Your quote should only be, at most, one pasuk (verse). You may select any quote within the parsha but your quote should relate to step 6 (see below). Also, you must be able to read your quote fluently in both Hebrew and English! Your quote may be placed anywhere within the D’var Torah but should flow nicely with the rest of the speech.

5) Provide one possible answer to your question. Remember that there are no “right” answers per se, just answers that are well thought out, logical, and have a textual basis.

6) What moral or ethical lesson can the audience (and you, the speaker) learn from this parsha? What is its theme?

7) Finally, how can the audience (and speaker) connect this lesson or theme to today’s society? How do we relate the words of the Torah to our lives?

Your D’var Torah should be 1 ½ -2 ½ pages in length. You will read and present them to the class as part of a major project grade for the first trimester. Also, you will write an outline, rough draft, and final draft for your D’var Torah. All three should be submitted at the time of your presentation.

If you need any help or assistance, please feel free to ask.

B’hatzlacha!

Outline Due:

Rough Draft Due:

Final Draft Due:

Final Presentation Date:

Meeting date with Rabbi (one week before Date of Kab. Shab. D’var Torah)